

**47 jailed for opposing shantytown demolition**

KHARTOUM (R) — A court has sentenced 47 people to six months in prison and fined them 3,000 pounds (\$667) each for interfering with the demolition of shanty areas in north Khartoum, a newspaper reported on Tuesday. If they did not pay the fine, they would have to serve an additional five months in jail, the daily Al Suden Al Hadith reported. It said the public order court sentenced the 47 for resisting police efforts at the start of an operation that began last Saturday to remove all shanty areas in the capital. About two million Sudanese who have fled the south, where rebels have waged a civil war since 1988, live mainly in some 40 shantytowns in Khartoum. The government wants all of these refugees to either return home or go to productive areas where they can depend on themselves and not on relief aid.

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AMMAN WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 1991, THI AL QU'DEH 22, 1411

**2 Arabs sentenced to long prison in Germany**

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP) — Two suspected members of a Palestinian group were convicted Monday of two bomb attacks against U.S. military trains and sentenced to long prison terms. Hafez Kassem Dalkamoni, 45, of unknown nationality, was sentenced to 15 years in jail. Abdul Fattah Ghadbanfar, a 48-year-old Jordanian, received a 12-year prison term. The trial lasted eight months. Both men are suspected of being members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC), a Palestinian group linked to the bombing of Pan Am flight 103 over Scotland on Dec. 21, 1988. Dalkamoni, and Ghadbanfar have been mentioned as suspects in the Pan Am bombing. German investigators say they have no evidence linking them to that attack. The Frankfurt upper state court found the two men guilty of planting bombs aimed at two U.S. military trains in Germany in 1987 and 1988. There were no injuries in the two attacks. The first target was a U.S. military train carrying 150 people between Kassel and Goettingen on Aug. 31, 1987. The attack failed because the military train was delayed and a German freight train was sent onto the stretch of track first, triggering the explosives.

# Jordan Times

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**Peace marchers head for Amman**

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — An international group advocating non-violence and calling for Middle East peace set out on Tuesday to march from Jerusalem through the occupied West Bank to Amman. Dozens of members of the Gulf Peace Team planned to walk the 70-kilometre in six days to commemorate the 1967 war in which Israel occupied the West Bank 24 years ago this week, a spokesman said. The peace marchers had previously tried to prevent the Gulf war between a U.S.-led coalition and Iraq by setting up a peace camp between the opposing armies.

**'Phony milk for Sudan'**

NEW YORK (AP) — The owner of a shipping company pleaded guilty to defrauding an aid programme out of nearly \$1 million by shipping animal feed instead of powdered milk to famine-stricken Sudan, prosecutors said Monday. Maatya C. Merritt, owner of AMG Services Inc., pleaded guilty late Friday in Manhattan's federal court to conspiracy to defraud the U.S. government. The charge involved a contract that his company had with the U.S. Agency for International Development, which administers foreign aid, to supply hundreds of tonnes of low-fat milk powder to starving Sudanese. During the plea, Merritt said the shipment he arranged in January 1989 was actually an inferior milk product for animals, not fit for human consumption as required by aid regulations.

**Turkey arrests Swiss women**

ISTANBUL (R) — Turkey has arrested a Swiss woman it alleges has links with a banned Turkish leftist group, a court official said on Tuesday. The prosecution told Istanbul state security court that Barbara Anna Kistler was an alleged member of the outlawed Turkish Workers and Peasants Liberation Army (TIKKO) and was involved in setting up armed gangs. Kistler was not charged and was remanded in custody. The mass-circulation daily Hurriyet quoted Kistler, who could face up to five years in jail if charged and convicted, as telling the court she came to Turkey in January 1991 and had no links with the group.

**Saudi foreign minister in Qatar**

MANAMA, Bahrain (R) — Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Prince Sand Al Faisal arrived in Doha on Tuesday on a previously unannounced visit. The Gulf news agency said Prince Sand was greeted by his Qatari counterpart Mubarak Ali Al Khatib but gave no further details. The two ministers attended a meeting of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) in Saudi Arabia on Sunday and Monday.

**Floods devastate Afghanistan**

ISLAMABAD (R) — Rainstorms and floods have caused some 5,000 casualties in the northern Afghan province of Jozjan, an Afghan rebel news service said on Tuesday. Twenty-one villages were "completely destroyed" by the calamity that hit the area last Friday night, the Pakistan-based rebel government's official Midia news service said. "The number of casualties is approaching 5,000," Midia reported, without saying how many were killed and how many injured.

**Bush picks Strauss envoy to Soviet Union**

WASHINGTON (R) — President George Bush on Tuesday nominated former Democratic party chairman Robert Strauss as the new ambassador to the Soviet Union for what he called a critical period in U.S.-Soviet relations. "Bob Strauss was taken on difficult and delicate assignments in the past for presidents of both parties. I know he's the right man to take on the job at this moment," Bush said in a hastily arranged appearance in the White House Rose Garden.

**13 killed, 38 injured**

## Israeli warplanes attack Palestinian bases in Lebanon

MAJDALYOUN, Lebanon (R)

— Israeli warplanes pounded Palestinian bases in south Lebanon on Tuesday, killing 13 Palestinian fighters and wounding 38 people including a dozen children.

The air strikes, on the ninth anniversary of Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon, began less than 24 hours after a raid flattened a PLO intelligence office east of Sidon, 40 kilometres south of Beirut.

The planes made 18 passes over two hours on training bases, ammunition depots, artillery and anti-aircraft guns in and near three villages five kilometres east of Sidon, witnesses said.

"The raid started suddenly and explosions smashed all the windows," said a nun at a church school in Majdaloun where some 1,300 terrified children hid in basement bomb shelters.

She said 10 children — aged between five and seven were hit by glass fragments. Two more children were wounded at other schools.

The raid hammered bases of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the Palestinian Fatah Revolutionary Council (FRC), the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) and the Lebanese Sunni Muslim Popular Liberation Army (PLA) militia, security

sources said.

They said the dead consisted of six FRC, five DFPL and two PLAs.

At least 14 of the 38 wounded were civilians. Most of the other injured were Palestinian fighters, the sources said.

Ambulances were unable to enter the area during the raids in case they were hit. Buses later evacuated children — many in tears — from the schools while worried parents searched for them.

In Tel Aviv an army spokeswoman said the planes destroyed DFPL guerrilla staging areas used for concentrating armoured vehicles, artillery and ammunition.

Political sources said the raids were intended to reinforce Israel's warning that it would not permit a Lebanese-Syrian cooperation treaty which took effect on Monday to threaten the Jewish state.

"These air raids are a prelude to a large military attack ...," said Zeid Webb, the personal representative in Sidon of Palestine Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Webb reported what he said was an Israeli military buildup in the south and unusual air and naval movements in the area.

Bombs and rockets hit an FRC training camp near Majdaloun, leaving craters up to two metres

deep and 10 metres wide. The planes landed down anti-aircraft fire but drove them under cover, witnesses said.

"The planes are striking the area every few minutes ... it seems they are not going to stop," said Sidon resident Elham Mustapha. "We felt our house shake with every explosion."

Palestinian fighters put up a curtain of anti-aircraft fire but Israel said all its aircraft returned safely.

Palestinian sources said during the attack that Israel and an allied Lebanese militia were reinforcing positions near the village of Kfar Falous, about 10 kilometres east of Sidon.

Tuesday's raids were Israel's 12th air strike into Lebanon this year and the most extensive air assault in several months.

Israeli planes struck on Monday as the Syrian and Lebanese foreign ministers exchanged documents in Beirut putting the wide-ranging cooperation treaty between the two neighbours into effect.

Three people, including two guerrillas, were killed and seven wounded in that attack which was also just east of Sidon.

Israel has condemned the pact as virtual Syrian annexation of Lebanon. Damascus says that the treaty recognises Lebanese independence but strengthens close

ties between the neighbours.

"These developments are not in Israel's interest," said a Palestinian political source. "The raids emphasise Israel's position that it will not withdraw from the south and we expect more trouble."

The independent Beirut newspaper *Al Nahar* said on Tuesday Syria and the PLO had reached an agreement in principle on the status of Palestinian fighters in Lebanon and Middle East peace negotiations.

It said PLO guerrillas in Lebanon will keep their weapons until Syria's President Hafez Al-Assad received a commitment from Washington that Israel would withdraw from south Lebanon.

Israel, which withdrew most of its troops in 1985, holds a security zone in south Lebanon to stop guerrilla raids over its northern border and has vowed to stay until its security is guaranteed.

Lebanese Prime Minister Omar Karami urged the United Nations, the United States and other international powers to stop supplying Israel with weapons because "our children are dying."

He said Israel wanted to block implementation of a U.N. Security Council resolution calling for an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

## Iraq, Australia sign 1 million tonnes wheat deal

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said on Tuesday that a one million tonnes Australian wheat deal, previously held up by financing difficulties, had been finalised.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said that Australia will supply the wheat over the next six months.

It said methods of payment and shipment dates were agreed in a document signed in Baghdad on Monday near Sirnak town, 1,200 kilometres southeast of Ankara, they added.

In a separate clash, Turkish troops shot dead four rebels near the southeastern provincial city of Diyarbakir. They took a further five rebels prisoner.

The semi-official Anatolian news agency said a state security court in the eastern Turkish city of Malatya sentenced a Syrian member of the PKK to death.

The court said Mohammad Kenal had killed a Turkish rebel last June in a clash with security forces near Malatya.

Iraq is living off old stocks of grain and its own harvest which usually yields 30-40 per cent of its grain needs.

The statement said: "India will fill the vacuum created by the war and by the... refusal of all Western

finance purchases of food, medicine and other goods for humanitarian purposes, but few have done so.

In New Delhi, India said Tuesday it has offered food and medicine on commercial credit terms to Iraq, which has been seeking in vain to arrange food deals with Western countries since the Gulf war.

"We have offered to provide foodstuffs and medicines, which are items allowed under the United Nations sanctions regulations (against Iraq), on normal commercial credit terms," an external affairs ministry spokesman said.

The Indian spokesman said no firm deal had been concluded yet, but New Delhi would give its usual credit support to exporters for food supplies to Iraq.

He was commenting on a statement issued on Monday in Baghdad by K.G. Dhananjayan, president of the Federation of Indian Farmers Association, saying Indian farmers would supply Iraq

with food on credit terms.

Re-nationalisation, which would take effect if decreed by the ruling Revolution Command Council, could bring down bread prices only if the government guaranteed supplies of flour to the new state-owned bakeries.

The bakers, privatised in 1989, have raised the price of bread more than 20 times since last August.

The bakers say that as private businessmen they have to buy their flour at scarcity prices on the free market. The price of flour distributed through the government ration system has not changed since last August.

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These officials confirmed that Bush asked Shamir to agree to the participation of a U.N. representative in the role of observer and to agree that the conference can reconvene periodically to receive updates on negotiations but not have any authority over the negotiations.

According to Israeli officials in Washington, Bush's letter asking for Israeli concessions on both these two points stem from Syria's insistence on U.N. participation and reconvening of the proposed conference.

The letter stressed, the officials said, the U.S. position that the conference would only be a vehicle



ROYAL VISIT: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan

by the division's commander. The exercise included field operations, involving the use of all support units and armour, and live-ammunition exercises on selected targets. At the end of the visit Prince Hassan thanked the participants for their great efforts and the skills they demonstrated during the exercise.

**U.S. protests mistreatment of diplomat;****Israeli minister rejects U.N., EC role**

## Shamir set to reject Bush's plea for talks

Renter and the Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV — Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir is expected to

reject President George Bush's direct appeal for Israeli flexibility, and will not budge on the outstanding issues blocking the convening of a Middle East peace conference.

Sources in the prime minister's office told *The Jerusalem Post* last night that "These issues are critical for us. We cannot give in." They added that the reply is already being drafted.

In his letter, Bush called on Israel to be flexible on the unresolved procedural issues standing in the way of a conference. Should the so-called procedural issues be overcome, Bush assures Shamir that the party will indeed lead to direct talks.

Officials in the prime minister's office describe the two-and-a-half page letter as "friendly" and before refuting any threats should Israel refuse to yield any ground on the "modalities."

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The letter stressed, the officials said, the U.S. position that the conference would only be a vehicle

for breaking taboos that will lead to direct dialogue between Israel and her neighbours.

Bush wrote letters to all the major leaders in the region in a bid to overcome existing roadblocks on the way to a peace parley. Until now, Secretary of State James Baker has been handling all of the diplomacy, with White House officials not wanting Bush to be saddled with the possibility of failure.

The idea of dispatching letters to the region seems to be calculated to achieve optimal effect at minimal cost. U.S. officials are hoping that no Middle Eastern leader will want to turn down a direct appeal from the president, especially in the aftermath of the Gulf War. At the same time, the White House hoped to protect the president's personal prestige by communicating via epistles rather than risking a high-profile presidential visit to the area.

White House officials revealed Monday that, in addition to Israel and Syria, Bush had sent written appeals for movement towards a Middle East peace conference to King Hussein, King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt.

These letters, along with the messages sent to Shamir, and Syrian President Hafez Assad, hand-delivered in Lisbon to Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al-Shara by Baker represented an all-out effort to move forward with the stalled U.S. proposal.

The letters "all expressed the president's personal commitment to the peace process, urged them to follow up on the various opportunities that have come out of the Baker mission, and once

again stressed that we should not pass up this opportunity to keep the peace process alive and to get Israel talking to its neighbours."

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said at a news briefing.

Fitzwater said that the letters did not contain any new proposals, but urged compromise by the various countries on the modalities of the conference.

In the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence committee Monday, Shamir denied that Bush in his letter had invited the prime minister to confer with him on the conference.

Shamir said, "in the letter, the president is attempting to explain the need and the rationale of the positions of the U.S., so he can persuade the participants in the conference to accept the American view."

The prime minister insisted, "the peace process is not stuck." He also counseled, "I don't think we have patience. We want everything to run ahead. I understand this, but there are no short cuts. Things are complicated."

Meanwhile an Israeli cabinet minister rejected on Tuesday even a token Middle East peace role for the United Nations in an apparent setback to Washington's efforts to keep its peace initiative alive.

"We can't give any sort of tool to the United Nations, to Europe, which have taken so hostile a position towards Israel in this process," Transport Minister Moshe Katzav, who is regarded as close to Shamir, told army radio.

Israeli leftist members of parliament meanwhile accused the Likud party-led government of planning to quadruple Jewish settlement in the occupied Gaza Strip. Washington, Israel's closest ally, views such settlements as an obstacle to peace.

Meanwhile the United States lodged a formal protest with Israel Tuesday over what it said was the failure of Israeli soldiers to intervene when a Jewish West Bank settler threatened a U.S. diplomat with a pistol last week.

"The (U.S.) embassy has protested formally to the government of Israel and asked for an investigation," spokesman Don Cofman of the U.S. embassy in Tel Aviv told Reuters.

The U.S. consulate in Jerusalem said the diplomat was carrying out official duties in the occupied West Bank on Thursday when he was "assaulted by an Israeli settler near Hebron brandishing a pistol."

Two Israeli soldiers witnessed the incident but did not intervene, the consulate said.

## Algerian police fire on fundamentalists

ALGIERS (R) — Police, using live and rubber bullets, opened fire for the first time Tuesday as thousands of Muslim fundamentalists demanded an immediate Islamic state just over three weeks from Algeria's first multiparty general election, eyewitnesses said.

In the most serious clash in three days of disturbances in central Algiers, one protester was seriously wounded by gunfire, the witnesses said.

Thousands of angry militants, replying with stones to the police, chanted: "He is dead ... it is our first martyr."

The crackdown followed interior ministry orders to end illegal protests in the capital where police had only used tear gas and water cannon during the earlier disturbances.

As the wounded man was taken away in an ambulance, police fired in the air to back demands that the crowd disperse. The capital has been shaken

by three days of disturbances and most shops closed Tuesday, taxis stopped and little public transport could be seen.

The militants have taken to the streets to press Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) demands that electoral laws be changed.

They were also demanding that President Chadli Benjedid face voters in a presidential election alongside the June 27 poll for parliamentary elections.

The demands on the street have escalated.

The thousands of gathering militants shouted: "We want an Islamic state immediately, we do not need a vote."

The FIS says the elections are already fixed, with electoral laws favouring the National Liberation Front (FLN) which has run the country since independence from France in 1962.

It has called an indefinite general strike to back its demands but the stoppage appears to have had little effect on key sectors of

the economy, such as gas and transport. Postal and other service industries have been disrupted.

The militants converged on the capital's May 1st Square after being cleared from there and another stronghold, Martyrs' Square, in pre-down police raids.

The wounded man was hit near the sports complex of El Harcha, some 700 metres from the centre of May 1st Square, witnesses said.

The Algerian press agency APS said 600 people had been admitted to Mustapha Hospital suffering from the effects of gas.

The hospital said only two were seriously injured, one who had just an operation and another who suffered from asthma.

"There are no dead, despite persistent rumours," an official source told Reuters.

The interior ministry Monday night, after the most serious confrontation since electioneering started, ordered an immediate

crackdown on illegal protests. It said they had "generated an atmosphere of insecurity and disrupted the normal life of the citizens."

Police and demonstrators battled for nearly an hour Tuesday with protesters using paving stones against the police.

As the protest started, thousands of fundamentalists coming from the suburbs of Kouba and El Heraach joined the crowd.

Witnesses said that after nearly an hour, police firing in the air took control of the square, one of two main rallying points which have been taken over by FIS militants for the past week.

They forced the activists to disperse and the capital echoed to chants of small defiant groups and the dull crack of tear gas being fired.

Some protesters, masks covering their faces, picked up tear gas canisters and hurled them back at police.

The demands on the street have escalated.

The thousands of gathering

## Scores feared dead in Addis Ababa arms dump explosion

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Scores of people were feared killed when a huge arms dump blew up before dawn Tuesday in a southern suburb of Addis Ababa.

Rebels who took control of the Ethiopian capital a week ago said the explosion, which set off a huge fire at a nearby fuel depot, was caused by saboteurs.

Rebel commander Bereket Simon blamed the blast on remnants of the former government of ousted ruler Mengistu Haile Mariam.

Red Cross officials said they had no idea of the scale of casualties as much of the area was still burning, but several of the residents streaming away from the area said they had seen bodies.

One resident, Endris Ahmed, 55, said he saw scores of bodies and many houses destroyed or on fire.

The explosion buried artillery shells, mortar bombs and rockets across the city of three million. The shells hit the fuel dump which exploded in a massive orange mushroom.

It blew out windows in a two-kilometre radius and cracked open nearby office and apartment blocks.

John Mathai, soundman for the international news film agency

Vinnews, was killed in the fuel depot explosion as he and his Nairobi-based cameraman Mohammad Amin approached the area to film the burning ammunition dump, colleagues said.

Amin was badly injured.

An enormous twisting tornado of thick smoke spiralled into the sky, blackening the city's southern suburbs. The smoke from the blast was so thick it shrouded the red and orange flames and the bursting artillery shells for minutes.

"The noise was incredible, we turned away," said Colin Blaine, a correspondent for the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) who was with the Vinnews crew but was not hurt.

"They (Mathai and Amin) were crossing a river, going down a bank, when it hit them," he said.

Blaine told Reuters he saw about half a dozen bodies in the area and lot of damage.

Fighters of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) toured the area with loud hooters, warning people to stay away in case of further explosions.

"This is sabotage," said Teklewoini Asfa, head of the rebels' relief group, Rest.

The explosions took place only hours after EPRDF leader Miles Zenawi said on television Monday evening that rebel forces controlled virtually the whole country.

State radio blamed the explosion on saboteurs but did not say who was responsible.

Residents living near the scene said they heard gunfire nearby about half an hour before the first explosion.

Ammunition ignited by the first blast at 4:25 a.m. (0125 GMT) traced crazy patterns in the sky before falling up to three kilometres away, setting off secondary fires.

Windows shattered and plaster fell from ceilings across the city.

One resident, Abebe Haile, said thieves had tried to loot the possessions of those fleeing.

"EPRDF fighters fired at the footers but they hit a man standing next to me. Three others were wounded," he said.

Several ammunition dumps have exploded in and around Addis Ababa over the past 10 days as the northern-based rebels fought their way into the city.

One such blast last week was believed to have killed hundreds of people.

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Several hundred men were

blown out of the economic

quagmire of the revolution

and improve the people's basic

needs.

Soaring inflation, shortages,

bureaucratic bottlenecks and cor-

ruption, which persisted during

the 1980-88 war with Iraq, trans-

formed Iran from an oil-rich de-

veloping country into an econo-

mic wreck.

Iranian President Hashemi

Rafsanjani, elected only weeks

after Khomeini died, has tried to

nudge the revolution away from

Khomeini's hard-line legacy, and

towards rebuilding the economy.

Going against Khomeini's anti-

Western, anti-Arab streak, Raf-

sanjani improved ties with the

West and with Arab neighbours.

Aware of mounting public dis-

JORDAN TIMES, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 1991

## Israeli court sentences 'Jordanian soldier'

LOD (AP) — An Israeli military court sentenced a 19-year-old "Jordanian soldier" to 28 years in prison Tuesday on charges he attempted to kill Israeli troops after "infiltrating from Jordan."

The court handed down the sentence against Raed Kader Ibrahim Awad after he pleaded guilty to a charge of firing on Israeli soldiers with intent to kill along the Jordan River on Aug. 19, 1990.

Awad's bullets failed to hit any Israeli soldiers, but the court's chief judge, Lt. Col. Aharon Alpern, said the lengthy sentence was necessary as a warning to potential infiltrators.

The court said Awad, who did

not belong to any guerrilla group, infiltrated across the Jordan River with another soldier, each armed with automatic weapons and 14 magazines of ammunition.

Although public discussion of

mental health remains taboo.

At one extreme are cases of torture and rape. "I have one man who was forced by the Iraqis to watch a video of them torturing another man by cutting his arm off, throwing acid on it and then burning it," Hajia said.

Mqabwi, who works at

Kuwait's main psychiatric hospital, is concerned about the lack of

attention and resources for everyday cases of war trauma.

She and other doctors say they

are treating countless cases of

post-traumatic stress disorder. "Its clinical symptoms are psychological and emotional withdrawal, insomnia, lack of appetite, aggression, depression, anxiety and violent mood swings."

Treatment means airing their

problems, getting support from

family and friends, reintegration into society. "It's a lot of work and it's a long-term process," Mqabwi said.

She and other doctors fear that

victims of Gulf war stress may

turn to illicit alcohol and drugs.

They say they are already treating

cases of alcoholism and drug

abuse but would give no details.

Alcohol is illegal in this Muslim

state.

But the reserve has come

tumbling down because of the

Gulf war, doctors say. People are

coming forward to seek help in

the consulting rooms of private

therapists and in hospitals,

ded mourners from around the country to the site, IRNA said, adding that vehicles still trying to get the scene were locked in a traffic jam extending 3 kilometres from the shrine.

IRNA reported that in addition to the crowd already inside the sprawling compound, about 200,000 mourners were advancing towards the shrine's southern and eastern

## ATF opens Arab-German dialogue

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Arab Thought Forum (ATF) Wednesday opens a two-day German-Arab dialogue designed to promote Arab-German relations.

A total of 28 participants from Jordan, Germany, Syria, Egypt, the United Kingdom and Palestine will take part in the dialogue which will be held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Apart from Prince Hassan, the opening session will be addressed by Dr. Udo Steinbach, head of the German team and an expert on Middle East issues.

The topics include: new requirements for a Germany policy in the Middle East, Arab-German cooperation in trade and economic development, Germany's role in the Arab World, perspective of a German-Arab cultural cooperation, Arab-German cultural communication and cooperation, the role of united Germany and its contribution to the new world order, the effects of a unified Germany and its role in the Arab World and a future outlook on Arab-German cooperation.



## Premier visits JUST

IRBID (Petra) — Prime Minister Mudar Badran Tuesday paid a visit to the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) and was briefed on its programs and future plans.

Mr. Badran toured a number of departments and inspected installations and other projects in the campus.

At a meeting with the Council of Deans, the prime minister urged the university council to set up a training hospital for the doctors graduating from the university's Faculty of Medicine and offer services to the local community.

The prime minister, who was accompanied on the visit by a number of government officials, was told by university President Kamel Ajlouni that there were 63 foreign professors and teachers, among the 318 staff, and that the university was turning out post-graduate students and was planning to expand.

JUST will this Sunday graduate its third batch of students, numbering 490, including 28 post graduates.

Following the tour and the meeting with the staff, the prime minister was decorated with the university medal.

## Meeting tackles Mashreq project

AMMAN (J.T.) — A three-day meeting of the Steering Committee of the five year Mashreq (Orient) project started Tuesday at the Amman-based Regional Office of the International Centre for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas (ICARDA).

Participants will discuss the project's achievements during its first year, its plan of action, the annual report and the preparation of its budget for next year.

The Mashreq project is a regional project focusing on transferring available technology to farmers in Syria, Jordan and Iraq, with the aim of increasing the production of barley and fodder for livestock in the critical rainfall zones in the three countries.

The five year project is financed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD).

The three-day meeting will discuss the results that were achieved, the workplans and the training and educational plan which is a major focus of the projects.



Minister of Planning Khaled Amin Abdullah (third right) and UNDP president representative in Jordan Ali Atiq (second left) Tuesday signed an agreement on developing training centre in Hashemi Al Shamali (Petra photo)

## U.N. agency helps build development training centre

AMMAN (J.T.) — The United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) is contributing \$408,525 towards the completion of a development training centre in Al Hashemi Al Shamali district, in eastern Amman, in accordance with an agreement signed in Amman Tuesday.

The project is being implemented by the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (QAF), with loans and contributions from a number of Arab and foreign sources, and the UNFPA grant will only help cover the cost of salaries for experts, from Jordan and abroad, who will be giving training at the centre, and part of the equipment needed for the project, according to a QAF official.

He told the Jordan Times that the project entailed setting up premises, of nearly 7,200 square metres in area, on a 12-dunum plot of land owned by QAF that

will serve as a national and regional training centre.

Part of the centre will serve as a training section for Jordanians and other personnel from the Arab World in skills pertaining to pre-school education, community development and income generating projects, the official said.

The second part is intended as a pilot community project, which, although will serve the local community, will also be used as a workshop for the experts and the trainees, with the Hashemi Shamali district serving as a case study for the project.

The project is already under construction, but more funds are required, and the overall cost can not be assessed at the moment, said the official.

The project, to be known as the Zein Al Sharaf Development Centre, entails setting up special sections for computers and for equipment used in training per-

sonnel to be later involved in community development projects in Jordan.

Established in 1985, QAF aims at promoting, consolidating and organising national capabilities and resources in support of social development and a higher quality of life for the Jordanian people.

QAF has already set up various community centres and social development units around the country, largely benefiting rural population settlements.

Her Royal Highness Princess Basma is chairperson of Board of Trustees.

QAF raises funds through donations, gifts and loans. Signing the agreement for Jordan, Tuesday, was Minister of Planning Khaled Amin Abdullah, and for the UNFPA, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) resident representative in Jordan.

## Investor: No services sector without a strong money exchange system

By Serene Halasa  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Following the recent crisis, many experts seem to believe that Jordan will witness an economic boom as more investors are reaping their funds to invest them in the Jordanian market. This optimism, however, is not shared by some, who believe that Jordan's economic system is still hampered by bureaucracy and certain laws that contradict, by their nature, the free market economy.

Ghazi Saudi, an investment consultant and money changer, said he believed that money changers were a vital part of the economy and should be given the right to re-operate in the Kingdom. "Without a strong money exchange system in the Kingdom, we cannot establish a reliable and well developed services sector," Mr. Saudi told the Jordan Times.

In 1988, following the sharp decline in the value of the Jordanian dinar, there was a wide crackdown on money exchangers, under the government of Mr. Zeid Rifai. According to the government, money exchangers were accused of bringing the value of the dinar down. Thus martial

law was implemented, and all money exchange offices were closed down.

According to Mr. Saudi, the money exchangers were used as a "scapegoat" by the government who was not to start with, "honest" with the people concerning the true value of the dinar. He said that Jordan's economy was in bad shape due to a rise in foreign debt and lack of foreign exchange to cover increasing imports.

These reasons, combined with other problems, prompted the government to start negotiations with the World Bank, in 1986, to plan for new measures to combat the deteriorating economy. "One of the World Bank's conditions was to devalue the Jordanian dinar in order to weaken the purchasing power and, as a result, lower the living standards by cutting down on imports," Mr. Saudi said.

"Now the situation is different. The Jordanian market has proved to be stable, and investors are encouraged to invest in this country," he said.

A new draft law concerning the re-operation of money exchangers is scheduled to be discussed in the Lower House of Parliament before the end of the year. "The draft law envis-

ages tough terms on money exchangers which are bound to restrict their operations," Mr. Saudi said. "In addition, banks do not wish to see money exchangers operating again, so that they can maintain the present monopoly on the money market," Mr. Saudi added.

The crackdown on money exchangers has also given rise to an emerging black market in Jordan. Mr. Saudi, who insisted on calling it the "unofficial market" said that this kind of operation was run by "vendors and unprofessional people" and called for establishing a "good money exchange system," to avoid dealing with such operations.

According to Mr. Saudi, in 1980, close to 70 per cent of the total money exchange operations in Jordan were held with outside markets, especially neighbouring Arab markets that had no money exchange operations, like Iraq, Syria and Egypt. Now, he added, the situation is different with the reopening of the Lebanese market and the trend in Syria and Iraq that aims at opening money exchange banks.

"We can still compete with the new emerging system if we establish a strong and official money exchange system here in Jordan," Mr. Saudi said.

## Symposium reviews recommendations of Damascus training programme

AMMAN (Petra) — Participants in a four-day symposium for vocational training centres trainers and supervisors, held at the Vocational Training Corporation's Trainers Training Centre between June 1-4, Tuesday stressed the need for implementing the recommendations of a training programme on documentation and information held in Damascus in November 1990.

The recommendations called for setting up a regional documentation and information network on vocational education and training, and for establishing a regional documentation and information unit on vocational training.

The recommendations also called for exchange of documents and information among Arab countries through a central unit to be set up in the project premises. Also included in the recom-

mendations was a call for providing training opportunities for workers in documentation and information and enhancing the link between practical training and production.

The Damascus training programme also recommended that a glossary of vocational training terms be compiled in Arabic and that standard Arabic synonyms for English terms be compiled.

The recommendations also stressed the need for encouraging and promoting rural income-generating projects.

The symposium is organised by the Amman-based Regional Project for Skills Development in the Arab World. The project is funded by the United Nations Development Fund (UNDP) while the technical assistance is provided by the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

## Discussions to tackle environmental issues

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian Society for the Control of Environment Pollution organises in cooperation with the Friedrich Naumann Foundation of Germany a symposium, on the occasion of the International Environment Day, on June 5, 1991. The activity comes under the National Environmental Information and Education Programme.

The symposium will concentrate on "Climate Change." Speakers will tackle the global state of environment in addition to the global climate change.

The symposium will take place at the Royal Cultural Centre, a society statement said Tuesday.

As the world is loading the environment with various kinds of pollutants and exhausting its resources, climate change gradually starts to appear. The increase of carbon dioxide concentration and other pollutants have led to the "greenhouse" phenomenon. Heat that reaches earth from the sun is mostly absorbed by pollutants and kept near the earth. It is estimated that

## 21 factories closed down for polluting Zarqa River basin

By Khalil Abdul Salam  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — In keeping with its warnings to factories violating health safety regulations, the government Tuesday announced the closure of 21 factories in the Zarqa Governorate and said they were found to have violated health safety regulations, causing damage to public health and the environment.

The closure came only four days after the start of a campaign, by the Zarqa Public Health Committee, to discover factories and companies which violate rules and regulations concerning public health.

A committee spokesman said Monday that a certain percentage of water flowing out from factories and companies located within the Zarqa River basin and into the Zarqa River that feeds the King Talal Dam, contained chemical and biological pollutants.

He said that many of the 36 factories and companies located

within the basin did not comply with the regulations and ignored directives by Prime Minister Mudar Badran to install equipment for the treatment of waste water.

The order for the closure was issued by Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment and Acting Health Minister Mohammad Addoub Al Zaben.

Following are the companies and factories ordered closed: the Industrial, Commercial, and Agricultural Company, the United Factories Company in Zarqa, the Blankets Company, the Jordan Yeast Company, the Jordan Pulverisation and Intermediate Petro-Chemicals Industries, the Jordan Paper and Cardboard Factories Company, the Jordan Industrial and Match Company, the Al Hussein Iron and Steel Factories, the Jordan Chemical Industries Company, the Arab Food Company, the Paints Factory, the Intermediate Petro-Chemicals Industries Company.

the Jordan Sulphochemicals Company, the Arab Iron and Steel Industries Company, the Jordan Pipes Manufacturing Company, the Duleil Poultry Marketing Company, the Fine Hygienic Paper Company, the Duleil Dairy Products Factory, Zeidan Ice Cream Factory, the Jordan Tanning Company and Al Naser Distilleries Company.

The government had earlier given one month to these companies to install proper equipment for the treatment of waste water so as to reduce the contamination in the river water flowing towards the King Talal Dam which eventually reaches the farmlands of the Jordan Valley region.

Prime Minister Mudar Badran had warned that violators of the law and health safety regulations risk having their factories closed down.

In the meantime, the committee was reported pursuing its campaigns to ensure that factories abide by the regulations. The contaminated water of the King Talal Dam was alleged to be responsible for the severe damages to the Jordan Valley crops in the past winter season.

## Project for Dana village to boost local tourism

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Tuesday revealed details of a development project at Dana village, in the Tafileh Governorate of southern Jordan, and said that work would soon begin on the implementation of the integrated project.

The announcement was made by Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs Mohammad Al Zaben who said that the project was aimed at stimulating tourism in the region, "which is a beautiful area and has the potential of a tourist attraction."

The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN) has set up a wildlife reserve at Dana which is a scenically beautiful, wooded, mountainous section of the Rift Valley.

The wildlife reserve covers 100 square kilometres in area and is one of the few areas where viable population of larger mammals may survive, according to RSCN. It said that the mountain gazelle,

ibex and striped hyaena were among the species present in Dana reserve.

In revealing the ministry's plan, Dr. Zaben said that the project would be financed by a number of local organisations and international voluntary groups concerned about the conservation of nature.

In order to help Dana attract tourists, the minister said that the project entailed setting up a tourist camp together with public utilities opening roads and providing horses for the tourists and residential quarters for the artists to be involved in activities that would boost the economic and social life of the area.

Dr. Zaben, who was speaking at a meeting with ministry officials gathered to debate the financing touches of the project, said that the site would be supplied with basic services like water and electricity, and the local residents would acquire special training in handicrafts. Lands

around Dana village, he said, will also be developed in an exemplary manner and the residents and farmers will be encouraged to breed bees and keep cattle and sheep.

As the meeting, a decision was taken for the RSCN to draw up the main plans for the project, while the Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) will undertake the task of setting up cooperatives and the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) will conduct survey with the purpose of defining the role it can play in the area.

The minister said that a joint team from the ministries of agriculture, water and irrigation public works and housing will, on June 12, pay a visit to the project site and submit a final report on the requirements needed to be studied in the coming month.

Representative of a number of concerned ministries and factors, like the cement factory and the RSCN, were present at the meeting.

## Jordan, Turkey review tourism

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Turkey Tuesday started meetings paving the ground for an executive protocol to implement agreements signed between them in 1986 and 1989, aimed at boosting cooperation in tourism.

The talks are conducted through a joint Jordanian-Turkish tourism committee chaired by Nasri Atallah, Ministry of Tourism's secretary general, and Director of tourism in Turkey Necdet Sönmez.

The two officials said at their initial meeting that Jordan and Turkey both sustained severe losses to their tourism industry resulting from the Gulf crisis, and that they would try to help revive this industry through mutual agreements.

Mr. Atallah told the meeting, which is expected to last four days, that Jordan had

sustained nearly \$250 million in lost tourism during the crisis last year, and that the Kingdom was expected to sustain nearly \$450 million in lost tourism during 1991.

In outlining the Kingdom's plans to stimulate the tourism industry, Mr. Atallah said that Jordan's revenues stood at nearly \$500 million in 1989, accounting for nearly nine per cent of the country's gross national product (GNP).

He said that Jordan's tourism industry could be developed easily in view of its proximity to Europe and its close ties and cooperation with Turkey in the fields of marketing tourist attractions and conducting joint campaigns with Turkey abroad especially in Japan and Europe.

In reviewing Turkey's tourism situation, Mr. Sönmez said

## ANNOUNCEMENT Furnished Luxury Villa for sale

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5. The bank is not committed to accept any bid, and has the right to cancel the auction without notice.
6. The winning bidder should submit the value of the villa in a period which does not exceed one week from the date of decision, otherwise, the bidder should bear a fine that equals 1% of the villa's value for each day of delay. In the case that he retreats, the deposit, mentioned in paragraph 2, will be confiscated.
7. The villa can be examined during office hours after a prior appointment.
8. For more information you can call Mr. Mousa Balo during office hours on the phone number 652709 — Amman.

**Secretary of the Liquidation Committee**



## Features

JORDAN TIMES, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 1991

# Global warming will have dire effects on Mediterranean coastline

By Magir Adgham

The following article was contributed by the National Environmental Information and Educational Programme of the Jordanian Society for the Control of Environmental Pollution. The author is the director of the National Programme.

GLOBAL change has been the theme of many international meetings in the last two decades. The influence of the human species on environment has become so pervasive that the effects must now be considered on global scale. The chemistry of the atmosphere has been changed, and with it the interactions between the atmosphere and hydrosphere, the geosphere and the biosphere. The greenhouse gases added to the atmosphere will apparently be buffered so far by the working of the global system as a whole, but they will eventually alter global climate, causing warming at unprecedented rates.

It is estimated that the prediction of global warming of 3.5°C + or - 2.0°C due to CO<sub>2</sub> doubling would lead to sea level rise of 80 cm. This prediction is based on global warming effects only and sea level trends over the few thousand years at that location should be added to the figures above.

Over the next century major physical factors affecting sea level due to postulated global increase of atmospheric temperature of 3.5°C are likely to be:

- Thermal expansion of ocean waters could expand the top 100 metre of tropical water by 10 cm and the next 900 metre by at least 20 cm, and eventually by 50 cm or more. Below that level cold deep water would continue to flow from polar regions, changes in the depth of the thermocline and hence of the vertical distribution of temperature could, however, produce larger changes than the simple expansion figures given above.

- Melting of smaller glaciers

and ice caps could produce a rise of around 20 cm of sea level.

- Changes of water storage on land in lakes, rivers, reservoirs and groundwater are very difficult to predict and while unlikely to exceed 10 cm per century will probably be a fraction of this value.

- A catastrophic collapse of the west Antarctic ice sheet is not imminent, but this is not supported by scientific evidence and better oceanographic knowledge is required before assessing whether a global temperature rise of 3.5°C could start such a collapse by the end of next century.

- Melting of smaller glaciers and ice caps could produce a rise of around 20 cm of sea level.

**Sea level rise and the Mediterranean**

The coastlines bordering the Mediterranean Sea are divided between more than 15 nations, and its coastal literature exists in at least a dozen languages. This linguistic situation has complicated the task of presenting an overview of the effects of sea level rise along the Mediterranean Sea, an almost landlocked sea comparable with the Gulf of Mexico, the China Sea, the North Sea and the Baltic.

However, if written information is dispersed, the mapping of coastal features has also been uneven, this could be due to the conflict that existed between

different states bordering its shores and also the interests of super-powers in the region.

The Mediterranean region has always had its good deal of problems, most man-made, but some could be classified as natural.

For the purpose of this review, predictions of likely rise in sea level in the Mediterranean over the next fifty years or so will be based on global values.

The following discussion will be based on the author's personal observations, opinion, perceptions and knowledge of the areas reviewed.

Two case studies will follow, the first will cover the Nile Delta, and the second will look at the problems associated with the Venice Lagoon and how estimated global sea level rise might confuse the picture further.

**Effects of sea level rise on the Nile Delta**

From a geomorphological point of view, deltas are some of the most rapidly changing areas in the world. The land areas are built-up by sediments both from the river and the sea to an elevation slightly above the high tide.

This natural process, in case of the Nile Delta, has already been disrupted by two major human activities: the building of the Aswan Dam and the reclamation of land from the sea alongside the Eastern Mediterranean coast in the last forty years. Nevertheless, a rapid rise in the sea level will further upset the natural system.

Large areas will be inundated, including a coastal strip with a width of one to 20 kms or more. Even larger areas will be subject to flood disasters.

The Nile Delta is home for 16 per cent of Egypt's population, about 15 million people, it is as heavily populated as Bangladesh.

Most of Egypt's fish catch comes from the lagoons of the Nile

Delta. As for agriculture, the Nile Delta accounts for more than a quarter of the country's cultivable land. With the loss of hundreds of hectares of cultivable land due to desert incursion during the last two decades, more intensive cultivation is taking place in the Nile Delta.

The loss of good productive land to the sea will have an adverse effect on many of the nations of the area. Egypt is the major rice producer among the Arab countries and it exports rice and many other crops to Jordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Libya and others. So, the loss of land in the Nile Delta will reduce the nation's GNP and put millions of Egyptians out of work, adding to the 25 per cent unemployment in rural areas.

Tourism is the second most important industry in Egypt. Alexandria and Port Said have very important tourism activity as well as being the two major ports on the Mediterranean Sea.

Most of the Nile Delta is only 50 to 60 cm. above sea level. Alexandria and Port Said, in the Nile Delta and home to 16 per cent of Egypt's population, would be swamped by only 60 cm rise in sea level. The lagoons of the delta, which provide most of Egypt's supply of fish, would be ruined and one quarter of the country's cultivable land could become under the waves.

**Effects of sea level rise on the Venice Lagoon**

Throughout history attempts to protect Venice's incursion of the sea have modified the environmental factors that influenced the evolution of the lagoon. These interventions have changed the interactions between the rivers and the sea and have led to modifications in and around the lagoon system. Causing relative rise in mean sea level of 10 to 15 cm. Once more, due to human

impact on the environment, Venice is under a new threat: sea level rise as a result of global warming.

For centuries there have been arguments regarding man's intervention in the Venice Lagoon. Venice depends on a balance between interacting factors, notably the inflow of fresh and salt waters, the budget of sedimentation, and the influence of ecology.

In the lagoon of Venice, frequency of flooding (acqua alta) has increased dangerously in the last few decades. This increase has several causes. Some are a result of atmospheric conditions, others are of mean sea level variations and tidal changes. With a predicted sea level rise of 50 to 60 cm during the next century, due to global warming, the frequency of flooding is likely to increase further.

Since the beginning of records in Venice (1871), the total mean sea level rise is estimated to be about 27 cm. Of the 27 cm, at least 14 cm, must be ascribed to man-induced sinking of land, 3 to 7 cm to geological subsidence, and only the last 6 to 10 cm are probably related to regional eustasy and to other natural phenomena.

In the last three decades, intervention to depollute the air and water of the lagoon, and help nature to take its action in rebuilding the lagoon is believed to bring improvements. Since pumping of ground water stopped, the lagoon has uplifted by almost 10 cm.

From the above evaluation of sea level rise of the Venice Lagoon, it seems that a simple assessment of the effects of predicted sea level rise due to global warming on Venice is not feasible. Will improved environmental management of the Venice Lagoon improve the situation and help to save it?



The Egyptian harbour of port Said is one of the Mediterranean cities to be affected by the rise of the sea water level

## Urban survival game: A new American sport

By Louis Meixner  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Naji Al Montasser crouched low behind an iron girder, a pistol at his side; as he hid in a warehouse. He carefully stepped forward and aimed his "splatmaster" pistol at the camouflaged man hiding behind an overturned table a few feet ahead.

His opponent lunged forward firing two quick shots, striking the 30-year-old contractor on the leg.

Splat! Al Montasser's out.

In a city where more than 2,000 people were slain last year, Al Montasser will live to fight another day.

His shooting was part of a simulated war game that is growing in the United States as well as in the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand and Canada.

Organisers estimate that last year almost 100,000 Americans spent at least \$250 million hunting each other as part of what is often called the national survival game.

The game is played at 400 rural fields and several dozen urban centres across the United States.

"It's exciting, it's strategy it's fun, it's close to the real thing," said Al Montasser, who was playing the game for the first time. He wore a black sweatshirt and dark

pants — decorated with two fluorescent green splotches.

"You see so much nonsense in the streets, in the world. But this is fun," said Al Montasser. "You hit someone with this," he said pointing to his "splatmaster" pistol, "and he's back in the game in a few minutes."

The "splatmaster," like the semi-automatic paintball rifles also favoured by the game's devotees, is powered by a CO<sub>2</sub> cartridge and can accurately fire a dime-sized water-based paintball about 60 metres.

Some observers take the game less lightheartedly. They say its meteoric rise in popularity since its inception in June 1981 reflects a dangerous and growing sense of alienation in society and an increase in the public's infatuation with the military.

A certain form of combat, of aggression, has become the new badge of the American hero," said Henri Zukier, a professor of psychology at the graduate faculty of the New School for Social Research.

Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf "is a real live hero, Rambo is the fantasised image," he said. "With these games one can take part in the glory at considerably less risk, in a mediated way."

Fred Wright, a professor of psychology at New York's John Jay College of Criminal Justice

said the game helps vent the frustrations of many of its players.

"It's healthy in that no one is injured, but it is dangerously close to the real thing," he said. "And there is the danger that borderline people who are not well integrated into society may trip over the fine line between fantasy and hurting other people."

Jerry Braun, publisher of Paintball Sports and a member of the Master Blasters, a prize-winning Paintball team, dismissed the charges.

"Should we eliminate hide-and-seek because it's a hunt-and-chase game?" Braun asked. "It's primal. It seems universal."

Braun plans to host the 80,000-dollar "world cup" of Paintball June 28-30 in Newburgh, New York. Dozens of 15-man teams from across the United States, Canada and Britain are expected to compete for the prize money.

"It's one of the few ways adults can play," said Braun, a lawyer, who opened the survival New York playing field north of New York City in 1982. "This is one game where they can dress up in a costume, paint their faces and run around in the woods all day and get away with it."

In New York City, about a dozen people gathered late one Thursday night to play in the

warehouse where Al Montasser first spilled paint.

"I lead a stressful life," said Steve Rieber, a electrician who fights under the name Scorpion. "But I come here and fight and sweat and I feel better."

"For 40 minutes it's complete tension. You don't know what is going on if someone is sneaking up behind you or what. It's 40 minutes of adrenaline."

There are two types of team play. One is total elimination, in which each team tries to shoot all members of the opposing team. The other is capture the flag, which is usually played outdoors and the idea is to capture the other team's flag and bring it to your base.

Rieber was wearing a padded camouflage uniform and holding a paintball gun styled like an assault rifle. He wore goggles and a mask to protect his head from a direct hit.

Moments later about half a dozen camouflaged warriors headed to the main floor of the warehouse which was decorated with piles of tires, overturned tables and wooden barriers, all covered with splotches of paint from errant shots.

As a judge gave the signal, players crept forward hiding behind the barriers. In a few minutes of semiautomatic paintball fire, the game was over.

Admission at urban survival is \$20 and a tube of 10 balls of paint costs \$1.50. Peter Stirling, the co-owner of the Brooklyn field, said an average player spends between \$50 and \$100 a day.

A good semiautomatic rifle costs \$200 to \$300, but modifications can boost the bill considerably. Norberto Rodriguez's gun cost \$600 dollars, including such modifications as extra paint and CO<sub>2</sub> capacity.

Rodriguez, 21, said he doesn't care about the cost of the game.

"I love the game, but my mama doesn't like the idea of me carrying a gun in New York City," Rodriguez said as he packed his black paintball rifle in a carrying case.

"You know, it's only a sport, but she just doesn't understand."

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## SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

## Gascoigne deal to go ahead this week

ROME (R) — England midfielder Paul Gascoigne's transfer to Italian first division soccer club Lazio will be completed this week, Lazio officials said Tuesday. "We'll meet his people in Rome Friday or Saturday," Lazio's sports director Carlo Regalini said. "We just need to work on a few things. Gascoigne is injured, and we have to work out the clauses on insurance for example. But the agreement will go ahead." Gascoigne, who suffered knee ligament damage early in Tottenham Hotspur's 2-1 win over Nottingham Forest in the English F.A. cup final May 18, is not expected to be match fit until next year. Regalini would not comment on speculation that the transfer would be worth a world record \$14.5 million with a \$6.8 million down-payment.

## Marseille seek new coach

PARIS (R) — French soccer champions Marseille are seeking a replacement for coach Raymond Goethals after their defeat on penalties by Red Star Belgrade in last week's European Cup final. Goethals has been openly criticised by club president Bernard Tapie for falling into a tactical trap set by Red Star's trainer Lupko Petrovic last Wednesday. Petrovic said he asked his players to wait for the penalty shoot-out. Tapie said he was seeking a coach to help achieve his dream of a first-ever European Cup title for France next season. Barcelona's Dutch trainer Johan Cruyff has been approached but the former international midfielder has declined the offer.

## French sweeper Blanc joins Napoli

NAPLES, Italy (R) — Napoli have signed French international sweeper Laurent Blanc from first division Montpellier for a six billion lire (\$5.5 million) transfer fee, sourced at the Italian soccer club said Monday. They said sporting director Giorgio Perinetti signed the agreement Friday, binding Blanc to play at Napoli for two seasons and giving the club an option on a third at a salary of 600 million lire (\$45,000) a year. There was no official confirmation from Napoli but the sources said announcement of the signing was planned for June 7 when new coach Claudio Ranieri will also be introduced.

## Sao Paulo reach 2nd consecutive final

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Brazil's former World Cup coach Tele Santana took Sao Paulo to the final of the Brazilian championship for the second consecutive year Sunday. Sao Paulo reached the final despite being held to a 0-0 home draw by Atletico Mineiro in their semifinal second leg. The first leg ended in a 1-1 draw but Santana's team qualified by having the better overall record in the competition. They play Bragantina, who beat Fluminense, in the final. Santana, Brazilian coach in the 1982 and 1986 World Cups, took over at Sao Paulo last October and led them to the final of last year's championship, where they lost to Corinthians. Second division Criciuma caused a major surprise by winning the Brazilian cup, their first national title. Criciuma drew 0-0 home to gremio in a tense and violent match to win the two-leg final on away goals. Gelson of criciuma and Mauricio of Gremio were sent off for fighting in the second half.

## Cash makes good start at Beckenham

BECKENHAM, England (R) — Pat Cash, kicked out of the Beckenham Grasscourt Tennis Tournament for turning up late last year, arrived on time Monday and comfortably dismissed 16-year-old Scot Miles MacLagan in the first round. The Australian, using the tournament for practice on grass ahead of Wimbledon, which he won four years ago, but MacLagan 6-2, 6-2. But there was a shock for British number one Jeremy Bates who went down 6-3, 6-4 to unheralded compatriot Jonathan Haycock. Serving strongly, Haycock broke Bates once in each set to set up a second round match against former world number one Ivan Lendl. The 19-year-old was understandably pleased with his performance. "It was my best ever win," he said. "Who do I play after Lendl?"

## Mystiko definite starter at Epsom

LONDON (R) — Former favourite Mystiko has got over a corn injury and will definitely run in Wednesday's Epsom Derby Horse race, his trainer Clive Brittain said Tuesday. Brittain said his colt, bidding to complete the 2,000 Guineas-Derby Double, had worked extremely well in an early morning gallop. "At the moment he is 100 per cent sure to run. He had a five furlong (one-km) pipe-opener this morning, and I am extremely happy," the trainer said. "It is a sunny morning, and I am feeling really sunny too." Brittain said Monday that the then \$1 favourite had only a 50-50 chance of strating in England's premier classic because of a corn on his foot discovered at the weekend. The corn has now been removed. But Mystiko may no longer start the 1½ mile (2.4-km) race as favourite.

## Flintoff-King expecting a child

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Seoul Olympic games track and field gold medalist Debbie Flintoff-King is expecting her first child and will miss the 1992 Barcelona games, she said Tuesday. Flintoff-King, 31, is due to give birth in January. The pregnancy also will rule her out of the world track and field championships in Tokyo later this year. Flintoff-King won the women's 100 metres hurdles gold at seoul and was considered one of Australia's leading medal contenders for Barcelona. She has not yet decided whether to retire from track and field.

## GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH  
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## SPOT THE ERRORS

Both vulnerable. West deals.  
NORTH  
A K 10 8  
7 5  
K 10 8 4 2  
A K 3  
WEST EAST  
Q J 9 6 5 4 3 2 Void  
A 6 4 A 10 8 2  
A Q 9 J 7 6 5 3  
+ 2 A Q 10 6  
SOUTH  
7 2  
K Q J 8 3  
Void  
J 9 8 7 5 4  
The bidding:  
West North East South  
3 + Pass Pass 4  
Pass Pass  
Opening lead: Two of ♦  
Follow the play of this hand, then decide who, if anyone, blundered and how many errors were made on this hand from a duplicate event. Bear in mind that a player might have committed more than one mistake.

We are not thrilled with West's decision to preempt as dealer. The hand contained too much strength outside the long suit for our tastes. East had a good hand with a good hand, but South's courage in bidding four hearts was above and beyond the call of duty.  
West led the deuce of clubs. East won the queen, cashed the ace and then returned the ten as a suit pre-

## Sabatini, Agassi slide to French Open semis

PARIS (Agencies) — A game away from defeat, third-seeded Gabriela Sabatini reached the semifinals of the French Open Tuesday with a gritty 5-7, 7-6, 6-0 victory over Jana Novotna.

Andre Agassi became the first man to reach the semifinals.

Playing as if he had a plane to catch, he raced to a 6-3, 6-1, 6-1 victory over Switzerland's Jakob Hlasek.

Sabatini trailed 2-5 in the second set, then drew even. In the tie-breaker, she twice saved match points and wasted six set points before prevailing 12-10.

That seemed to demoralise Novotna, the sixth seed, who succumbed meekly in the final set after seeming to have an edge in the first two.

"It's good to have this kind of match," Sabatini said. "It makes me ready for the next ... I never stopped fighting."

Agassi, a finalist last year and the no. 4 seed this year, disposed of the unseeded Hlasek in 1 hour, 15 minutes, the fastest victory of the week involving one of the top players.

Several times, Agassi was back on the court ready to resume play

before the umpire announced the end of a break.

Hlasek, ranked 20th in the world, appeared helpless against Agassi and drew derisive whistles from the centre court crowd early in the third set when he made a string of unforced errors.

"I was expecting a real tough match today," Agassi said. "I don't think he was playing up to his game. I was just keeping the ball in play."

In the semifinals, Agassi will play the winner of a match later Tuesday between second-seeded Boris Becker and 10th-seeded Michael Chang, the 1989 champion.

"I certainly wouldn't take either one for granted but I would be pretty confident going into it," Agassi said of Becker and Chang, who were playing their quarter-final later Tuesday.

"My record against Michael has been in favour of me and I beat him here last year," said Agassi, who disposed of his fellow American in the quarterfinals a year ago.

"Edberg is capable of playing great on clay," Courier said. "Clay is favourable for me

knowing he is going to run his little tail off to chase down everything."

In all, three Americans and two Germans, all of them seeded, reached the men's quarterfinals, reflecting the strength of the two nations that have won the last three Davis cups.

Of the other three quarterfinalists, only top-ranked Stefan Edberg is a favourite. Argentina's Franco Davin, like Hlasek, was unseeded.

In the other half of the draw, 12th-seed Michael Stich of Germany is favoured to win his quarterfinal Wednesday against Davin, ranked 69th in the world. But a German-American semifinal in that bracket is far from certain, with Edberg favoured in his match against the hard-hitting no. 9 seed, Jim Courier of the United States.

Courier demolished his friend and practice partner, 243rd-ranked Todd Martin, on Monday to reach a Grand Slam quarterfinal for the first time.

"Edberg is capable of playing great on clay," Courier said. "Clay is favourable for me



Andre Agassi

against him, though I feel confident, and so does he, I expect."

No German has won the men's title here since Henner Henkel in 1937, and never before have there been two Germans in the quarterfinals. Neither Becker nor Stich has ever won a tournament on clay.

Also Tuesday, former champions Steffi Graf and Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario advanced in far easier fashion to a semifinal match against each other.

Graf, the second seed, improved her career record against France's Nathalie to 14-0 with a 6-3, 6-2 rout. Sanchez Vicario, seed fifth, overpowered no. 4 seed Mary Joe Fernandez, also 6-3, 6-2.

## Hearns takes WBA title

LAS VEGAS. Nevada (R) — Thomas Hearns outboxed previously undefeated champion Virgil Hill and took an upset 12-round unanimous decision at Caesars Palace to capture the World Boxing Association (WBA) light heavyweight championship title Monday.

The 32-year-old Hearns, more renowned as a slugger, gave his younger opponent a boxing lesson, hammering the 27-year-old Hill with rights and left hooks to the body and head.

Hill, in his 11th title defence since winning the WBA 175-pound (79 kg) crown in September 1986, the third most defences in that weight division, was tentative early. He came on strong the final two rounds, but by then he was spent.

There were no knockdowns in the bout, but Hearns hurt Hill in the sixth, ninth and 11th rounds.

## Gonzalez keeps WBC title

Meanwhile, Humberto Gonzalez of Mexico regained the World Boxing Council (WBC) light flyweight championship Monday beating countryman Melchor Cob Castro in a 12-round unanimous decision.

Gonzalez, 25, with a record of 31-1 and 24 knockouts, beat the 23-year-old Castro by four points on two of the three judges' scorecards and by three points on the third judge's card.

There were no knockdowns in the bout, but Gonzalez won six of the final seven rounds on all three scorecards.

Gonzalez held the title from June 1989 to December 1990. This was the first defence for Castro since winning the crown three months ago. Castro is now 29-3-4 with 14 knockouts.

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY JUNE 5, 1991

By Thomas S. Pieron, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Be sure to today goods aspect, to make your surroundings more attractive and artistic. You can also take care of a personal task that is highly intimate and personal.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Make sure that you let everyone about be aware you are very sensitive in attending to the obligations and responsibilities that you have.

**Taurus:** (April 20 to May 20) Both members of your family and partners just do not see eye to eye with you and it is essential to listen more closely to the exact plan they have in mind.

**GEMINI:**

(May 21 to June 21)

Look for the many tasks you have to do and don't deviate from doing them in a most correct fashion that does bring respect from usual companions.

**MONSIEUR:**

(June 22 to July 21)

Now you find there are all kinds of desirable avenues and outlets by which you can find out what allies expect of you to develop.

**PISCES:**

(February 20 to March 20)

Your eagerness to get some new facet of your character expressed is just great so spend your time on this and avoid dull duties.

**TODAY'S CHILD:** If your child were born today she or he is an alert, aware, and very active youngster who has it within their power to see through other persons and to know what to say or do to make the best possible first impression. Sometimes the difficulty comes from not being able to live up to that first meeting.

## THE BETTER HALF.

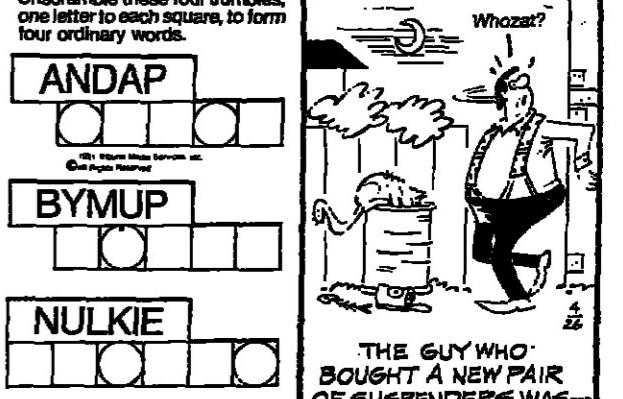
By Harris



"I guess I've been acting pretty crabby today. Even my shadow is mad at me!"

## JUMBLE

THAT SCRABLED WORD GAME  
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

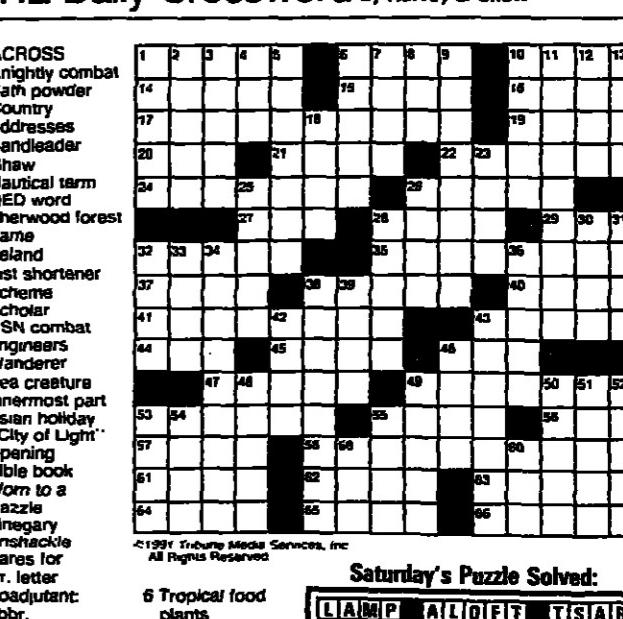
Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: TOXIC PIUS SINGLE MUSEUM

Answer: What the official count of the U.S. population is supposed to make—A LOT OF "CENSUS"

## THE Daily Crossword



Saturday's Puzzle Solved:

LAMP	ALDRAFT	TSAR
ALDO	DODGE	HARE
ALIVE	DEATH	THE
ALIVE	DEATH	INEXPRESSIVE
SITE	KIFFI	
AMATI	DEANS	
RAJA	LIEBEL	WIFE
WARD	MEMPHIS	
PIERRE	PROFESSION	
ATAL	LOSS	FOR WORDS
STEEFLY	VEIN	
LASER	RENEE	
DIAG	LAIR	
BALI	DESCRIBABLE	
THREE	SCENE	EAVES
BEETLE	FAIR	DAVEN
DAWN	BEETLE	DAVEN
1 Harry or Harry	34 Sherwood	53 Agitate
2 Take the stump	Forest name	54 Corduroy ridge
3 City	38 Contaminant	55 Agitate
4 Comic Caesar	33 Knight and Danson	56 Bitter words
5 Anneals	52 Intuit	57 Resembling a
	53 Manatees	58 Marlin bird
	43 Conductors	54 Corduroy
	46 Blackbird	ridge
	48 Desert refuges	55 Agitate
	49 Demented	56 Bitter words
	50 Mrs. Hemmingsley	57 Resembling a
	51 A Barnymore	58 Protrude

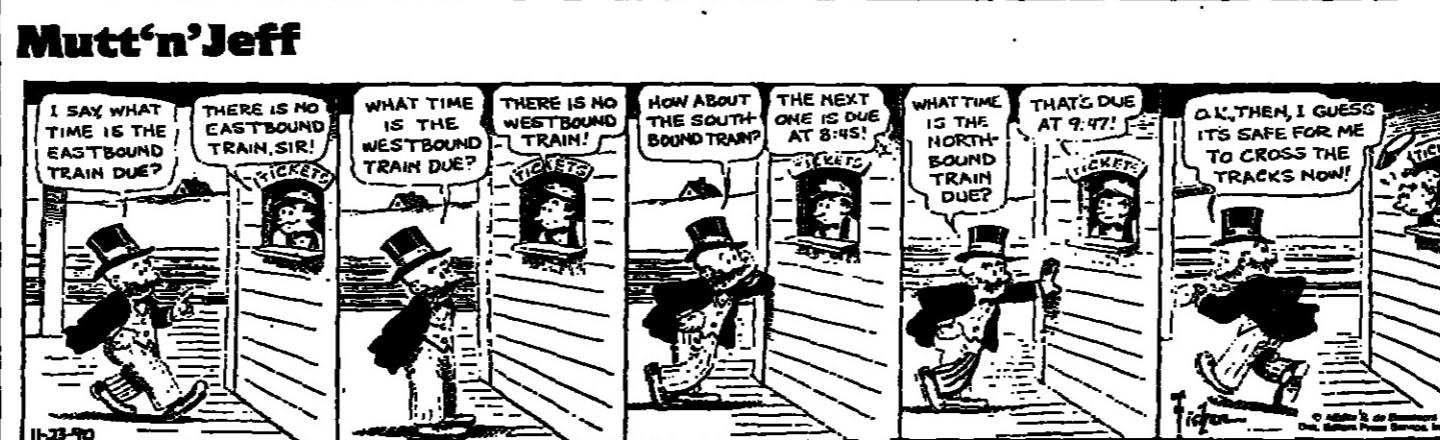
## Peanuts



## Andy Capp



## Mutt'n Jeff



مكتبة من الأصل

# Economy

JORDAN TIMES, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 1991

Financial Markets in co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close Date 3/6/1991	Tokyo Close Date 4/6/91
Sterling Pound*	1.6964	1.6977
Deutsche Mark	1.7455	1.7459
Swiss Franc	1.4930	1.4890
French Franc	5.9215	5.9175
Japanese Yen	159.20	158.60
European Currency Unit	1.1770	1.1763**

\* 1SD Per STG  
\*\* European Opened at 8:00 a.m. GMT

Eurocurrency Interest Rates Date: 4/6/1991

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	5.93	6.00	6.18	6.62
Sterling Pound	11.50	11.31	10.93	10.81
Deutsche Mark	8.82	8.87	9.00	9.00
Swiss Franc	7.43	7.93	7.95	7.81
French Franc	9.43	9.37	9.37	9.43
Japanese Yen	7.17	7.62	7.56	7.34
European Currency Unit	10.00	9.90	9.87	9.75

Interest bid rates for amounts exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent

Precious Metals Date: 4/6/1991

Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm*	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	562.15	6.70	Silver	4.16	.098

\* 21 Karat

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin Date: 4/6/1991

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	.685	.685
Sterling Pound	1.1577	1.1635
Deutsche Mark	.3903	.3923
Swiss Franc	.4578	.4601
French Franc	.1152	.1158
Japanese Yen*	.4903	.4928
Dutch Guilder	.5465	.5482
Swedish Krona	.1089	.1094
Italian Lira*	.0527	.0530
Belgian Franc	.01897	.01906

\* Per 100

Other Currencies Date: 4/6/1991

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.7850	1.8100
Lebanese Lira*	.0740	.0760
Saudi Riyal	.1817	.1825
Kuwaiti Dinar	-	-
Qatari Riyal	.1845	.1850
Egyptian Pound	.1900	.2050
Omani Riyal	1.7450	1.7650
UAE Dirham	.1845	.1850
Greek Drachma*	.3450	.3650
Cypriot Pound	1.4150	1.4250

Per 100 CAB Indices for Amman Financial Market

Index	2/6/1991 Close	3/6/1991 Close
All-Share	112.89	113.15
Banking Sector	110.45	110.30
Insurance Sector	112.56	113.06
Industry Sector	114.89	115.49
Services Sector	126.46	128.56

December 31, 1990 = 100

## Canada reports steep GDP drop

OTTAWA (R) — Canada's economy suffered its steepest decline of the recession in the first quarter of 1991, shrinking at a pace equal to the worst of the 1981-82 recession, but economists say a recovery has started.

Gross domestic product (GDP) fell 1.5 per cent in the first quarter, the fourth consecutive quarterly decline, the government has reported.

The manufacturing sector was

the hardest hit, falling about four per cent in dollar value, Statistics Canada, the government reporting agency, said.

"Most of the decline happened in the first month," Mr. Darryl Rhodes, an economist with Statistics Canada, said. In January the government introduced a seven per cent goods and services tax. "Most of the 1.5 per cent drop that happened in January was due to the effect of the goods and services tax," he said.

The government plans to allow a short period for voluntary severance following union consultations and then begin dismissals.

## Qantas Airways to cut 3,651 workers

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — Qantas Airways said Tuesday it plans to cut 3,651 workers as part of a plan to save 243 million dollars (\$185 million) a year.

A 200-page report, jointly prepared by government-owned Qantas and consultants Coopers and Lybrand of New York, has recommended 18 per cent of the jobs should go, leaving the work force at 17,138.

Included in the losses would be one-third — 200 employees — of the airline's management force.

Qantas chief executive John Ward said the proposals were crucial to the airline's future, allowing it to increase earnings by 150 million dollars (\$114 million) in the next financial year.

The government plans to give the current depressed growth outlook, if the airline is overstaffed and, in many areas, its management has grown bureaucratic and bloated," he said.

The carrier expects to finish the year "a bit better than break even," despite earlier estimated operating losses of 350 million dollars (\$266 million) due to higher fuel prices and decreased passenger traffic, he said.

Mr. Ward said returning the airline to strong profitability was "an absolute necessity if we are going to achieve a successful transition to private ownership."

"There is no denying that, given the current depressed growth outlook, if the airline is overstaffed and, in many areas,

its management has grown bureaucratic and bloated," he said.

Jordan Times Tel: 667171

**CONCORD**  
Cinema  
Tel: 677420  
  
SENIOR WEEK  
Show: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 p.m. 10:30

**NIJOUN**  
Cinema  
Tel: 675571  
  
Adel Imam in  
DANGEROUS RECORDER  
Arabic  
Show: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30, p.m.

**PHILADELPHIA**  
Cinema  
Tel: 634144  
  
TWO MOON JUNCTION  
Show: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

**RAINBOW**  
Cinema  
Tel: 625155  
  
Lalla Alawi in  
THE INTOXICATED  
Arabic  
Show: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30 p.m.

## OECD chief sees moderate growth in industrial world

PARIS (R) — The industrial world is poised to snap out of the economic slowdown triggered by the Gulf crisis but recovery will not be brisk, the head of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) has said.

Mr. Jean-Claude Paye, secretary-general of the Paris-based economic forum, said growth in the 24 rich countries that makeup the OECD was likely to average 2.5 per cent in the second half of 1991 and about three per cent in 1992.

The agency's economists have forecast no growth at all in the first half of this year.

While there was broad agreement that the recovery would

take hold during the second half of the year, Mr. Paye said there were still question marks as to how strong it would be. But he ruled out a return of the heady growth rates of the 1980s.

"We don't expect a vigorous recovery, notably because the slowdown wasn't profound and didn't last very long," Mr. Paye told reporters.

Although inflation should decline next year, Mr. Paye was cautious about the prospects for lower interest rates, saying circumstances differed from one country to another.

European officials are waiting to see whether U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady reviews his calls for Japan and Europe to cut rates to get the world eco-

nomy moving.

As well as providing momentum to the long-running Uruguay Round of world trade talks, Mr. Paye wants ministers to pay more attention than in the past to social issues, such as immigration and rising unemployment.

"It would be a shame if the OECD was characterised at the end of the century as an economic success and a social failure," Mr. Paye said. "I don't consider a 10 per cent unemployment rate to be a success."

He said no one had the magic cure for unemployment but the experience of countries with low jobless rates, such as Japan, pointed to a need to emphasise education, training and flexible labour markets.

## OPEC ministers begin summer conference

VIENNA (R) — OPEC ministers started talks Tuesday on how much oil to pump for the rest of the year, but they to tackle seemed reluctant some of the biggest hurdles thrown up by the Gulf crisis.

Ministers were grouped into three camps as they entered OPEC's twice-yearly conference called to review output levels and prices, Indonesian Oil Minister Ganjar Kartasasmita said.

Speaking to reporters on his way to the opening session, Ganjar said some countries wanted to increase the present 2.2 million barrel per day (b/d) production ceiling by 500,000 b/d for the third quarter.

Others wanted to keep the level unchanged, while the third camp sought a cut to help restore prices to the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries' (OPEC's) target of \$21 a barrel. Prices are now more than \$3 below the target.

Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest oil exporter, opposed a production cut for the third quarter.

Saudi Oil Minister Hisham Nazer said the kingdom supported OPEC's \$21 target price, but would not starve the world's oil markets to achieve the goal.

"We have always felt that we will support \$21 but we never said that we will force that on the market by a deliberate creation of shortage," Sheikh Nazer told reporters.

Saudi Arabia emerged from the chaos of the Gulf war as OPEC's powerhouse. Its vast re-

serves and huge capacity to pump crude oil permitted it to produce around eight million b/d, more than a third of OPEC's total output.

Iran, OPEC's second-biggest producer, refused to go along with a production boost that could undermine prices even more.

Iranian Oil Minister Ghohre Aqaqazadeh, when asked if there should be an output rise in the third quarter said: "No."

"We cannot accept an increase in the ceiling," he added.

A Reuter survey put OPEC's total production at 22.04 million b/d in May, just below the upper level agreed at an emergency OPEC session in March. The price for a basket of seven OPEC crudes averaged \$17.78 last month.

Discussion of the third quarter output ceiling was likely to dominate the meeting, eclipsing the looming problem of how to integrate Iraqi and Kuwaiti exports knocked out by the war.

Iraq is ready to leap back into the market and export crude as soon as the United Nations lifts the economic sanctions it imposed to punish Iraq for invading Kuwait last August.

But in Kuwait, hundreds of blazing oilwells have crippled production, and officials have said the emirate will not be able to resume substantial exports until next year.

Mr. Aqaqazadeh said Iran expected Iraq and Kuwait to resume oil exports in the first quarter of 1992, adding OPEC would have to address the issue later this year.

He said the potential return of Iraqi and Kuwaiti oil production was not a problem for the third quarter because they were still unable to export.

"But in the first quarter I think it is a very serious problem. We will talk in the fourth quarter about this matter," he noted.

Some ministers were willing to put off a decision on fourth quarter production, when OPEC forecasts demand will rise with the onset of the northern hemisphere's winter until the outlook for Iraqi and Kuwaiti crudes becomes clearer.

"We cannot make a decision for the (last) six months (of this year)," outgoing OPEC President Sadek Boussena of Algeria said. "A meeting in September will be necessary."

"There will almost certainly be another meeting," Nigerian Oil Minister Jibril Aminu said, adding he expected OPEC would decide to keep output steady for the time being.

Mr. Boussena told his colleagues that he was resigning as OPEC president, and conference sources said Venezuela energy and mines Minister Celestino Armas would take up the office.

Mr. Boussena had said at OPEC's March meeting in Geneva that he might not seek reelection for a post he held since last year.

## Lithuanians vow to defend parliament against Soviet attack

MOSCOW (AP) — Lithuanian nationalists vowed Tuesday to hold a weeklong vigil around their fortified parliament building to prevent an attack by Soviet forces. Moscow's troops had staged a brief show of force in the secessionist republic overnight.

In Moscow, officials accused Lithuanian leaders of manufacturing a dispute in order to sabotage President Mikhail Gorbachev's relations with the West.

About 500 Lithuanians massed early Tuesday in front of the parliament in the capital of Vilnius, said Algimantas Cekulis, spokesman for the Sajudis national movement.

"People of Lithuania: Lithuania is facing danger again," said a Sajudis appeal broadcast several times on local radio and television.

"The Soviet army is once again encroaching on Lithuania's heart, its Supreme Council (parliament). Assessing the situation, Sajudis invites the people of Lithuania to maintain a vigil at the Supreme Council."

Thousands of Lithuanians gathered in the square in front of the parliament buildings in response to a television appeal Monday night from Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis to show "unity... and not to give way to provocation."

Most dispersed by 2 a.m. (0000GMT) after 50-100 armed Soviet troops dismantled 10-15 checkpoints set up hours after the Soviet prosecutor blamed

nationalists for most of the 14 deaths in January's military crackdown in the republic.

The Soviet News Agency (TASS), quoting "unofficial sources," said the troops were training to search for deserters who left their units with weapons.

A spokesman for Gorbachev said the incident was contrived by Landsbergis to embarrass the Soviet president on the eve of his trip to Oslo, Norway, to deliver his Nobel Peace Prize lecture Wednesday.

"Every time U.S.-Soviet relations, or relations with the West, start looking better, Landsbergis does something like this," Vitaly Ignatenko told the Associated Press in Oslo.

The checkpoints went up starting about 9:30 p.m. (1930 GMT) Monday, on city bridges, the Vilnius Airport, the Central Railway Station and three entrances to parliament, said parliament spokeswoman Rita Dapkus.

Soldiers checked identity papers and briefly detained two people working for the pro-independence civilian Defence Force, she said. Military patrols also were spotted near the republic's Interior Ministry and police stations, she said.

They began pulling back about 1 a.m. Tuesday (2300 GMT Monday) Ms. Dapkus said.

Landsbergis told the Lithuanian parliament Tuesday his government kept in touch throughout the night with unnamed foreign governments and officials in

Estonia and Latvia. The independent Baltfax News Agency quoted him as saying unsuccessful attempts were made to contact Soviet Defence Minister Dmitri Yazov and senior officials in the Baltic military district.

"There are no guarantees that the military will not resort to similar actions today or tomorrow," Baltfax quoted Landsbergis as saying.

Meanwhile, President Mikhail Gorbachev and the leaders of nine republics agreed Monday to change the country's name to the Union of Soviet Sovereign Republics but remain committed to socialist ideals, TASS said.

Gorbachev's union treaty is designed to preserve the country as a federation.

The meeting was held at the government dacha, or country house, in the Moscow suburb of Novo-Ogarevo that has been the site of previous sessions to work out Gorbachev's proposed union treaty, the TASS said.

On May 25, the day after the previous session, Russian Federation leader Boris Yeltsin signed an accord with the leaders of nine of the 15 republics, including Yeltsin, to sign the union treaty. In turn, Gorbachev would turn over most of the nation's industrial and natural resources.

Besides Russia, the republics are the Ukraine, Byelorussia, Azerbaijan, Tadzhikistan, Turkmenia, Uzbekistan, Kirghizia and Kazakhstan.

The republics that have said they will not sign the union treaty are Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Moldavia, Armenia and Georgia.

TASS did not say when the next session would be held, although Gorbachev has said that his target is to present the treaty to the republics' parliaments for approval this month.

That section dealt with human rights, "government by the people," free development of all forms of ownership, market relations and other topics, TASS said.

Gorbachev's union treaty is designed to preserve the country as a federation.

The government makes it clear that all of its law enforcement powers will be mobilised to resolutely deal with all violent and other unlawful acts on or off campus," Education Minister Yoon Hyung-Sup said in a statement.

The demonstrators, sometimes numbering more than a million,

will be able to hear remaining wounds from its crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrations by freeing people still in prison.

"We deeply deplored the brutal suppression of peaceful demonstrators around Tiananmen Square in June 1989," said State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler.

"One significant step China

could take to heal the wounds of Tiananmen would be to release all those imprisoned after the pro-democracy movement in Peking streets on June 3-4, 1989.

The demonstrators, sometimes

numbering more than a million,

of their political views," she said.

**China confirms Mao's widow committed suicide**

PEKING (R) — Jiang Qing, widow of China's late Chairman Mao Tsetung, committed suicide on May 14, the New China News Agency said Tuesday.

The official news agency said

Jiang, 77, whose death sentence

was imposed in 1981 had been com-

muted to life imprisonment, died

in her residence.

Jiang was arrested shortly after

Mao's death in September, 1976.

Denounced as the "gang of

four" she and three radical allies

were put on trial in 1980 after

senior leader Deng Xiaoping, a

bitter enemy of Jiang, had embe

cemented his hold on power.

Jiang, a former Shanghai ac-

tress, was sentenced to death in

January, 1981, accused of perse-

cuting thousands to death during

China's radical Cultural Revolu-

tion.

The prime minister, a con-

servative educator appointed by

President Roh Tae-Woo only on

May 24 and not yet formally

installed in office, had arrived at

the university to deliver a lecture on "guidance for student

life."

Chung's aides told reporters

Tuesday the prime minister was

bruised on his face, neck and

back. He briefly visited his office

in the morning and then returned

home.

Newspapers and state radio

and television said they had re-

ceived hundreds of calls from

citizens expressing anger and out-

rage at the assault on the prime

minister who functions as the

head of governmental administra-

tion.

In a meeting Tuesday with

foreign correspondents, Informa-

tion Minister Choi Chang-Yoon

asserted that a "national con-

sensus" had formed against student

radicals because of assault which

he said had shamed South Korea

before the world.

"I couldn't sleep last night be-

cause of the embarrassment to my

country," Choi said.

The assault has been nearly

universally condemned in South

Korea. The country's main

opposition leader, Kim Dae-

Jung, said the harrowing pictures

of the assault filled him with

sorrow.

His departure formed part of a

six-point deal between the Com-

munist Party of Labour (PLA),

four opposition parties and inde-

pendent trade unions to try to

restore social and political peace

to the small Balkan state,

Europe's poorest.

It ended 47 years of uninterrupted

single-party Communist rule in Albania, slowly emerging

from stifling Stalinist suppression

and self-imposed international

isolation.

Pope John Paul II a day before

had pleaded with Poles to

"newly conceived" children as

more than encumbrances.

Tuesday, he entered the political

debate during an address to an

estimated 200,000 people, who

gathered before a soaring

wooden altar on a military air

field.

"What human institution, what

parliament, has the right to legal-

ise the killing of an innocent and

defenseless human being?" that

the pontiff asked in soft, measured

tones.

"What parliament has the right

to say, 'you are free to kill,' or

even, 'killing is in order,' when

the biggest efforts should be

made to protect and help life in

the first place?"

The Pope's golden robes bil-

lowed in the wind as he spoke

against a backdrop of distant

woodlands. At the end of the

service, he said he hoped his

words were not just "thrown to

the winds."

Hospital sources said the 70-

minute operation under a general

anaesthetic was a preventative

measure to ensure any tiny splin-

ters of bone were removed.

His anxious mother, Princess

Diana, kept an overnight vigil at

the prince's bedside in London's

Great Ormond Street Hospital.

The royal couple were alerted

by school officials and joined

their son soon after the accident.

Prince Charles drove 160

kilometres from the couple's

country home in Gloucestershire,

west England, to his son's bed-

side.

A spokeswoman for the school

said "no one was being nasty or

unkind to Prince William," who

he was described as a popular and

lively child.

The prince had an operation

to correct a depressed fracture of

the forehead," a Buckingham

Palace spokesman said late Mon-

day. "It was successful and no

permanent damage is expected."

Prince William was taking part